



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UFCW LOCAL 7 CELEBRATES KEY COLORADO ELECTORAL VICTORIES

The People of Colorado Have Spoken Via the Ballot Box; Now It's Time To Get to Work to Help Working Families Get Back on Track to Achieving the American Dream

DENVER -- The United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW) Local 7, which represents more than 27,000 workers in Colorado and Wyoming, thanks the nearly 3 million Coloradoan voters who participated in our democratic process during the 2020 election. UFCW Local 7 also congratulates the [36 Union-endorsed candidates](#) for their steadfast commitment to working families, and their civility while running for office during an unprecedented time.

This year, COVID-19 has killed thousands of our loved ones and has left millions of Colorado's families scrambling to make ends meet, while a powerful few reap record corporate profits off this pandemic. The basis of American democracy is that we pick our leaders – our leaders do not pick their voters. The Republicans failed to protect us and so millions of Coloradans and Americans turned out in record numbers to vote for candidates who put people first.

Local 7 President Kim Cordova issued the following statements on behalf of Local 7, which represents more than 22,000 Essential Workers in Colorado and Wyoming, in response to Colorado's election results:

"The election results in Colorado represent a victory for all Coloradans who believe in American democracy and progress. We are also incredibly proud of our UFCW Local 7 members, who during this historic election donated their time to register almost 4,000 voters and made more than 40,000 phone calls to get out the vote in unprecedented numbers in the middle of a pandemic. Their efforts, as well as those of our progressive community partners, paid off with enormous Democratic turnout that gave Joe Biden and Kamala Harris Colorado's 9 electoral votes.

"For the last four years, the American Dream, that so many of our members work hard for, has been under attack by the Republicans who were in office. Over the last year, I have seen Local 7 members empty their life savings to pay for loved one's COVID medical expenses or bury their dead, and I've seen others risk getting the virus at work to take care of patients and help feed America. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed to America the systemic racial and economic inequities that have always plagued our country but grew worse during the Trump years. With so many important issues on the table, from health care to workers' rights, from safety to fair wages, we are enthusiastic to see

Colorado, and our nation, overwhelmingly vote for smart and strong allies in the policy battles to come. Now it's time for us all to roll up our sleeves and get to work."

On Senate Election Results:

"We congratulate Democratic candidate John Hickenlooper on his Senate victory. John has always been an ally to Colorado's labor movement and to working people. He has spent his political career fighting for the issues that impact working families and now in his new role, we're counting on Senator-elect Hickenlooper to deliver on the issues that our members, and all working people, care about: jobs with livable wages, workplace safety, COVID relief, and affordable health care.

"John will have his work cut out for him when he gets to Washington D.C. but we are confident that he will put Colorado families first. That's why we're calling on Senator-elect Hickenlooper to protect the Affordable Care Act (ACA) so that over 20 million Americans do not lose their health care, including our members. Along with expanding and improving upon the ACA, we expect Senator-elect Hickenlooper to waste no time helping pass a coronavirus economic recovery plan that protects essential workers by expanding resources and legal tools for states to control COVID-19 outbreaks, and holding bad actors liable for putting their employees at risk. We also look forward to Senator-elect Hickenlooper helping pass comprehensive immigration reform, creating a path to citizenship for our nation's hardworking immigrants, millions of whom have kept the country running during this pandemic. We look forward to seeing Senator-elect Hickenlooper ensure that our diverse communities in Colorado have a voice in policy decisions. Local 7 will work hand-in-hand with him to protect our state's most vulnerable populations and to ensure an even playing field for everyone, not just those on the top."

On House Election Results:

"UFCW Local 7 is also proud to see the Members of Congress we have long relied on to be our voice in Washington lead the way on policies that will improve the lives of Coloradans: Reps. Diana DeGette, Joe Neguse, and Jason Crow.

"Congresswoman Diana DeGette has been a strong ally to the Union throughout her career, but in particular this year in helping protect all of our members who are not only essential workers but Essential Heroes. We are proud to see her important work continue. We look forward to working with all of the U.S. House elected officials to strengthen the rights and safety of workers, pass comprehensive immigration reform, and provide accessible and affordable health care to all."

"Ike McCorakle and Diane Bush both ran great races centered around making Colorado a safer, more inclusive place to live. On behalf of the UFCW Local 7, we thank you for working with us and fighting for the rights, safety, and well-being of workers and their families. We were proud to see each of these candidates use their important platforms to push a people-first agenda."

On Colorado State House, State Senate, County Commissioner, and Board of Regents Elections Results:

"At home, we can't wait to start working with State Senators Chris Kolker, State Representatives Lindsey Daugherty, Naquetta Ricks, Board of Regents member Callie Rennison, and County Commissioners Andy Kerr, to fight to keep Coloradans safe and healthy. We're also thrilled at the re-election of State Senators Rachel Zenzinger, Chris Kolker, Janet Buckner, State House Members Meg Froelich, Emily Sirota, Chris Kennedy, Monica Duran, Lisa Cutter, Kerry Tipper, Dafna Michaelson Jenet, Yadira Caraveo, Matt Gray, Kyle Mullica, Mike Weissman, Tom Sullivan, Mary Young, Donald Valdez, and Adams County Commissioner Chaz Tedesco, who we know will build on

their important work this year passing paid sick leave and guaranteed protection for whistleblowers who expose unsafe working conditions.

“The next two years will present an enormous opportunity for Colorado workers and we’re glad to have these partners by our side as we push to guarantee full healthcare benefits for all Coloradoans, strengthen the state’s ability to investigate bad corporate actors, and to make Colorado a safer, healthier and more equitable state. We congratulate Sally Boccella, Yara Zokaie, and Ken Schauer for running great campaigns and we look forward to working with them in their continued efforts fighting on behalf of families.

“For the UFCW Local 7-endorsed candidate races that are still too close to call, we are anxiously awaiting results and wish State Senate candidate Paula Dickerson (District 25) and Colorado State House candidates Jennifer Mitkowski (HD 43), incumbents State Rep. Daneya Esgar (HD 46), State Rep. Bri Buentello (HD 47) the best of luck.”

The Following are UFCW Local 7-Endorsed Candidates Who Won:

United States Senate

John Hickenlooper

United States Congress

Diana DeGette (CO-1)

Joe Neguse (CO-2)

Jason Crow (CO-6)

Colorado State Senate

Rachel Zenzinger (District 19)

Paula Dickerson (District 25)

Chris Kolker (District 27)

Janet Buckner (District 28)

Colorado State House

Meg Froelich (HD 3)

Emily Sirota (HD 9)

Chris Kennedy (HD 23)

Monica Duran (HD 24)

Lisa Cutter (HD 25)

Kerry Tipper (HD 28)

Lindsey Daugherty (HD 29)

Dafna Michaelson Jenet (HD 30)

Yadira Caraveo (HD 31)

Matt Gray (HD 33)

Kyle Mullica (HD 34)

Mike Weissman (HD 36)

Tom Sullivan (HD 37)

Naquetta Ricks (HD 40)

Mary Young (HD 50)

Donald Valdez (HD 62)

Board of Regents

Callie Rennison (CU Regent)

County Commissioner

Chaz Tedesco (Adams County, District 2)

Andy Kerr (Jefferson County, District 2)

Ken Schauer (El Paso County, District 3)

The following UFCW Local 7-Endorsed Candidates are still in races too close to call:

Colorado State Senate

Paula Dickerson (District 25)

Colorado State House

Jennifer Mitkowski (HD 43)

Daneya Esgar (HD 46)

Bri Buentello (HD 47)

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[Local 7](#), the largest Union in Colorado is affiliated with United Food and Commercial Workers International Union which represents over 1.3 million workers in the United States and Canada, and is one of the largest private sector Unions in North America. UFCW members work in a wide range of industries, including retail food, food processing, agriculture, retail sales, and health care.

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